Revelation regarding Pokhran-II test

748. SHRI NANDAMURI HARIKRISHNA:
SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the reaction of Government to a scientist's harshrevelations with regard to Pokhran-II test;

(b) whether it is a fact that 45 KT yield could not be achieved in the test;

(c) whether it is also a fact that not a single member of Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) has the necessary experience or expertise to be able to calculate the energy yield from fission or fusion reactions or blasts; and

(d) if so, the details of (b) and (c) above?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) The Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) has issued a statement confirming achievement of designed yield of tests carried out in 1998 at Pokhran including the thermonuclear test.

(b) and (c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Controversy over nuclear test

749. SHRI O.T. LEPCHA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in view of a disclosure made by a scientist there was a controversy relating to yield of the Thermo nuclear test conducted by the country in 1998;

(b) if so, the details in this regard; and

(c) the counter arguments available with Government to deny the assertion made by the scientist?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) and (b) There have been some reports in the Press raising doubt on the yield of the Thermo Nuclear Test conducted in 1998. In this connection the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) has issued a statement confirming achievement of the designed yield during the Thermo Nuclear Test.

(c) Yield of nuclear tests has been confirmed through several diverse methods by different groups.

Uranium mining

750. SHRI BIRENDRA PRASAD BAISHYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry is aware of the strong public resentment in regard to mining of Uranium in Meghalaya that it has been carried out without following the norms of radioactive extraction; and